

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

**AUTHORIZATION TO FILL POSITIONS TO IMPLEMENT MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES ACT-PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION COUNTYWIDE
JUVENILE JUSTICE TRANSITION AFTERCARE SERVICES PROGRAM
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request authorization to fund and fill 27 budgeted positions to form a Countywide Juvenile Justice Transition Aftercare Services Program to implement the Mental Health Services Act - Prevention and Early Intervention Plan.

REQUEST

Authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to fund and fill 27 Full-Time Equivalent positions for the implementation of the Mental Health Services Act - Prevention and Early Intervention (MHSA-PEI) Countywide Juvenile Justice Transition Aftercare Services Program.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Board approval will allow DMH to fund a new, directly-operated juvenile justice program which will provide PEI services throughout the Los Angeles County to youth upon / or before their release from the Probation Department programs.

The State Department of Mental Health (SDMH) has designated Children and Youth Involved In or At Risk of Juvenile Justice Involvement as a priority population for PEI services. This population is particularly vulnerable to mental illness and/or at risk of not receiving mental health services due to social, economic, and cultural barriers. DMH formed a MHSA-PEI Stakeholder Delegates Group and developed an overall MHSA-PEI Services Plan (Plan) and submitted the Plan to the SDMH for approval to serve this population. The MHSA Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Committee approved the Plan and allocated funding for the implementation. The Plan was allocated \$2,000,000 for the FY 2010-11. Sufficient funding is included in the FY 2010-11 Final Adopted Budget for this action. Program funding for future fiscal years will be requested through DMH's annual budget process.

The DMH aftercare Program will work closely with Probation Department's Camp to Community Transition Program to develop and deliver comprehensive services that follow youth as they transition from a residential treatment facility to the community to ensure a coordinated effort that results in prompt access to services. The Program will collaborate with the Probation Department to collect outcome data and report the

Fact Sheet
MHSA-PEI Juvenile Justice Program
Page 2

outcome information to the Board offices on a quarterly basis to provide Program progress and accountability.

Consistent with DMH's vision of partnering with clients, families and communities to create hope, wellness, and recovery, this new directly-operated DMH program will implement the MHSA-PEI Plan to deliver integrated, comprehensive PEI services to this vulnerable population through early mental health interventions and collaborative efforts with the Probation Department, impacted families and local community partners. The goals are to re-integrate these youth back into the community to live quality lives, to reduce juvenile delinquent behavior, recidivism and mental health illness throughout Los Angeles County and to enrich the target population's lives through effective and caring PEI services.

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APPROVED BY:

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RK: AW:cc